

EDMONTON BULLETIN

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EDMONTON BULLETIN, JAN. 18, 1901.

TRAIL TO PEACE RIVER.

Owing to the bad condition of the road between Lesser Slave lake and Peace river last summer it was impossible to get supplies through from the head of navigation on Lesser Slave lake to Peace river. Supplies landed at Lesser Slave lake last summer are being freighted across to Peace river this winter, but cannot be taken up or down the river in any quantity until the ice goes out in the spring. Next spring the 60 miles of road from Lesser Slave lake to Peace river will be as bad as ever, and if there is another wet season will be worse. If supplies could be forwarded from Edmonton to Peace River crossing during the winter all the difficulties of the bad summer roads both between Edmonton and Athabasca Landing and between Lesser Slave lake and Peace river would be avoided, and the difficulties of crossing or unloading heavy men and possibly very high or very low water on the Athabasca and Lesser Slave rivers as well. Besides employment would be furnished to settlers at a season when no other remunerative employment on any of the rivers is found. If they could make a little cash by freighting in the winter they could earn to much better advantage in the summer, than now when they try to go both freight and farm in the one season, which at best is none too long. At present a large quantity of goods or heavy freight are being shipped to the Landing, the intention being to send as much as possible on up the Athabasca to the head of Lesser Slave lake on the ice, and then on to Peace river. But winter freighting depends on cheap hay, and hay is not procurable along the Athabasca, and there is no such uncertainty about the ice taking in the fall and getting bad in the spring as to make the chances of travel being interrupted too great to warrant any being put up along that route at this time. The cost of that would be entailed. A small amount of high priced freight can always go in by the Landing route in winter, but for lack of a permanent supply of hay it can never become a route by which the Peace river country can be supplied by winter freighting from Edmonton; as it could, could be if it were procurable all along as it is at the Landing trail.

The distance from Edmonton to Peace river by way of the trail cut out some years ago by the Northwest government is about 200 miles. High hopes were entertained at the time as to the results from the cutting out of this trail, which unfortunately have not been realized. Partly because the traffic which was the immediate cause petered out; partly because the subsequent seasons have been exceptionally wet making the trail almost impassable in summer, and thereby discrediting it for winter; and partly it is to be feared, because it was not judiciously located. It ran for about 100 miles through practically unknown country, and in that section it passed over a high mountainous region, seven of feet and high, rough in summer and with very deep snow in winter, called the Deer mountains. 100 ft below and above the road was cut—and even while the work was going on there were reports of another and better route by a pass in these mountains, but there were urgent reasons for haste, and as thorough a search was made for the best possible route was made. Whether there is such a pass as is spoken of or not is a question. But if there is, and if even a winter trail were opened through it, it would mean a great deal to the development of Peace river and the trade of Edmonton. It would be well worth the time and expense for the Northwest government to make an exploration during this winter of light snow fall, when it is possible to travel anywhere in the woods with horses, for the purpose of throwing the Deer mountains with a view of altering that part of the trail as first cut out. And if no such pass exists, or if it is found not to be sufficiently favorable, a further exploration should be made to decide the possible advantage of carrying the trail around the eastern end of the Deer mountains. This would lengthen the trail a few miles, but it would avoid the high hills, the heavy timber, and the deep snow, and most likely strike dryer and more open country and better grass. A trail by this route would approach the eastern end of Lesser Slave lake, and in case of very bad summer roads a steamer might be employed to take freight the length of the lake, some 60 or 70 miles.

There is a tendency no doubt on the part of the Territorial government to look upon further expenditure on the Peace river road with disfavour, because of the large expenditure that has

been made without the expected results. But the need exists for something to be done. It can be done now carefully and cheaply. By all means let us have the practicability of a good overland trail to Peace river settled this winter while the conditions are so favorable.

READING ROOM.

At a meeting on Tuesday night of the committee appointed by the public meeting held to arrange for a reading room, the following committee and officers were appointed: Executive committee: G. J. Bryan, A. G. Harrison, W. G. Richardson, A. Bridge, Geo. Bellamy (treasurer); Geo. Goodall, secretary; Literature: A. Bridge, Geo. Goodall, G. J. Bryan. Room and furnishing: A. G. Harrison, Geo. Bellamy, W. G. Richardson, By-laws: W. G. Richardson, A. G. Harrison, A. Bridge. Names: A. T. Cushing, Geo. Bellamy, Geo. Goodall. A. T. Cushing is chairman of the committee.

The organization will be known as "The Edmonton Public Reading Room," and will be located in W. T. Henry's new building adjoining McIntosh & Whitelaw's store. It will be open from 1 to 10 p. m.

The canvassing committee reported satisfactory progress. About \$150 will have been collected when their labors are concluded.

LECTURE ON CHINA.

A most interesting lecture on China was delivered in the Methodist church on Monday evening by Rev. Mr. Endicott, who has been a missionary to that country for the past seven years. There was a good attendance. Mr. Endicott has a pleasing appearance and address, a clear method of expression, and the humor which is necessary to a good insight into human nature. His account of the city of Shanghai on the great Yang tsu river near its mouth, of the river voyage up the Yang tsu for 500 miles to Wo Chang, the great city of the interior. Then 400 miles further up by smaller steamer and finally the trip of 1,000 miles further up into the heart of China by house boat (drawn by coolies, was graphic and interesting to the last degree. He described the provinces lying along the great river as populous and civilized, to a degree far beyond what is generally supposed, with resources of iron, salt, natural gas, and fertile soil unsurpassed in the world. His description of Chinese manners and customs was most interesting, and the process of reasoning by which they arrived at their most remarkable conclusions was notable for determination to carry everything to its logical conclusion. At the close of the lecture proper Mr. Endicott gave explanation as to the composition and purposes of many Chinese articles of interest of which he had a splendid and valuable collection. Two suits of Chinese clothing, for gentlemen and for women, were on hand, of beautiful material and excellent workmanship. Rev. Mr. Buchanan, pastor of the church, introduced the lecturer and presided during the lecture. A vote of thanks was moved by W. T. Henry and seconded by John Ross, a collection in aid of the mission fund was taken up.

MANITOBA MARKETS.

Commercial, Jan. 12.

The trade in the local market has been unusually small during the past week. The little while wheat is moving from the country and the demand is also extremely small. Prices have ruled firm, holders showing no disposition to give way. At the close of yesterday's business, quotations on flour and oats were as follows: Hard 80s, 2 1/2; hard 70s, 3 1/2; 3 northern 64 1/2 in store; Port William, dried 3 hard 60 1/2, dried 3 northern 61 1/2 in store. King's elevator, Port Arthur.

The country market has been very quiet and deliveries by farmers light. Prices to farmers vary according to freight rate and possibly of grain. As yet, as far as the market is being put for No. 1 hard wheat and the range is from about 50c to 55c.

There has been a better demand this week for oats for feed purposes than there has also been some enquiry for seed oats. About 25c per bushel as being named on the price for oats good enough for seed. Quota of Alberta oats are worth as high as 38c per bushel on the track here, and the range is from 36 1/2 to 38c. Offerings of Manitoba oats continue light in weight and are generally of poor quality. They are worth 34 1/2 to 35 1/2 for best grades, and from 30 to 31c for inferior qualities. At country points buyers are paying 27 to 28c to farmers according to quality.

The market for barley has reached a nominal condition. Offerings are quoted at 34 to 35c for feed grade and maling at 38 to 39c in carloads on track.

WETTERWIN.

Mr. West is building an ice house west of his stable on Landowine St.

Mr. Harkness has rented his butcher shop to the Gallagher-Hull Co. until spring.

Mrs. H. A. Finch is suffering from a severe attack of tonsillitis and has been sick for over a week.

Drummers are every day visitors in our town and all without exception report satisfactory business.

Trails have been good for the last week and grain has been coming in freely and the grain buyers are kept fully occupied.

The Merchants Bank is about ready for business, and only requires a little finishing to the fixtures and the putting in of the safe.

The butchering firm of Cowan & Co. was some little time ago dissolved. Mr. W. Montgomerie is now carrying on the business in the old stand.

Grain prices kept steady. Oats are worth from 20 cents to 25 cents for extra good. Wheat 30c to 35c. Barley 25c to 30c.

Mr. Wm. MacDonald's store closed on the 10th inst. for stock taking.

Mr. J. W. Herie, of Winnipeg, is taking over the business and will be open this week.

Mr. H. McLean, who advertised in the "News" for two stray horses, informed us that the horses were brought to his farm within one week of the first appearance of the advertisement.

The fancy dress carnival fixed for the 9th was for some reason postponed at short notice, much to the disappointment of a large number of young people who came in from the country especially for the occasion.

Mr. Hull, of Calgary, was in town last week. He purchased the lot adjoining the livery stable corner of Peace street and McDonald street, and also the lot immediately south and fronting on Landowine street.

STORY PLAIN.

Miss Chatham, of Ontario, is expected to assist in special services in Spruce Grove Methodist church, beginning on Monday, Jan. 21st, 8 p. m.

Rev. Ward, East Edmonton, will conduct missionary services on Story Plain mission Sunday, Jan. 27th.

Mr. Abbott has been engaged as teacher in the Story Plain Centre school for 1901.

Elmer Reid has been laid up with grippe.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Alberta—Mr. and Mrs. Betty, Sydney; J. H. Glass, Jr., London; J. J. Sullivan, H. J. McGill, E. Dagg, Winnipeg; E. B. McMaster, Vancouver; A. W. R. Markley, Calgary; J. W. A. Courtemarche, Montreal; John Drougole, E. J. Taylor, Brandon; L. Mowat, Port Saskatchewan; H. Day, Beaver lake; Major Griesbach, C. H. West, Port Huron; J. P. Smith, and wife, M. O. Lund, Leduc; C. Oppert, Waterloo; Geo. Imeson, Story Plain; Wm. Gray, Ambrose; Geo. St. Albert; Wm. Burchart and wife, Wm. Schultz, D. Sieh, A. Kreye, H. Kreye, D. S. McKelvie, H. McDonald, Jackson, Can., Plain; Geo. Kernohan, Edmonton; E. A. Cummings, Poplar lake; F. E. Coley, T. Mohr, Port Saskatchewan; N. Munroe, Morinville; Chas. Drummond, Calgary; Hugh J. Kelly, Wetaskiwin; F. Vikerson, Lacombe.

Jasper—J. Rankin, town; Miss Gertrude Sturgeon; J. A. Drysdale, Ed. O. F. Pratt, Henry Fourrier, Port Saskatchewan; S. D. Nicolson, Spruce Grove; H. Nelson, H. Cinnamon, Sturgeon river; F. C. Brigham, Cross Creek.

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For the Edmonton Protestant Public School District No. 7, holding a class professional certificate. Salary, \$100.00 per month. Applications must be in by the 15th January, 1901.
ST. GEO. JELLEY, Sec'y, Edmonton.

LOST. \$500 REWARD.
Lost about one year ago, one bay gelding, weight about 900 lbs., five years old, very wild, white stripes in face, three white feet, branded L on hind quarter and M with stars over on left hind. If found, please bring to Story Plain, Alberta, and reward will be paid for information leading to his recovery.
WM. D. GRAHAM, Edmonton.

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The ravelled sleeve of care"

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